

In the Specification

At page 2, please delete the paragraph beginning with "To accommodate..." and replace it with the following paragraph:

--To accommodate for the deficiencies in the rigid link header assemblies, some prior art adjustable pin header assemblies utilize a flexible link between headers in order to provide for movement of the pins in each header with respect to the other headers. Fig. 1 illustrates an exemplary prior art adjustable pin header assembly 100. The header assembly 100 includes headers 110, 120, 130. Small flexible bars (flexible links) 140 are used for linking the various headers 110 - 130, which are then injected together as a unit to form the adjustable pin header assembly 100. The small flexible bars ~~130~~140 provide the assembler with some flexibility (i.e., adjustment between headers) in assembling the header assembly 100 to the PCB. However, the headers 110-130 and/or the links 140 can be damaged or broken during handling and loading, often resulting with the complete assembly 100 needing to be scrapped.--

At page 7, please delete the paragraph beginning with "Fig. 4..." and replace it with the following paragraph:

--Fig. 4 illustrates an exemplary cross sectional view of an unassembled header assembly 400 at a connection point for two headers 410,430. A first header 410 includes a main body 415 and a retention arm 420 protruding from the main body 415. The retention arm 420 is configured in this embodiment generally in the shape of a sideways "J", with a longitudinal side 422 that extends from the housing 410, a bend 424, and a perpendicular side 426 that is substantially at a 90-degree angle

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from the longitudinal arm 422. The perpendicular side 426 includes a ~~rib~~ ridge 428 that extends therefrom. A second header 430 has a main body 435 and an extending surface 440 protruding from the main body 435. The extending surface 440 has an opening 442 formed therein. The opening 442 is configured in this embodiment generally in the shape of an "L", with a main shaft 444 and a lower shaft 446 extending from only the bottom of the main shaft 444. The extending surface 440 also includes a ridge 448 that extends into the lower shaft 446. The first housing 410 may also include a stop 450 located on top of the retention ~~an arm~~ 420. The stop 450 is preferably wider than the retention arm 420, so as to prevent the retention arm 420 from entering ~~to~~ too far into the opening 442.--

At page 8, please delete the paragraph beginning with "To connect..." and replace it with the following paragraph:

--To connect the headers in this embodiment, the perpendicular side 426 of the retention arm 420 is inserted in the main shaft 444 of the opening 442. Once the perpendicular side 426 is completely inserted in the main shaft 444, the retention arm 420 is moved in a longitudinal direction away from the first housing 410 (to the right as illustrated) so that the perpendicular side 426 enters the lower shaft 446. As the perpendicular side 426 is entering the lower shaft 446, the ridge 428 passes the ridge 448. The perpendicular side 426 can continue to be inserted in the lower shaft 446 until an outer edge of the perpendicular side 426 reaches an outer wall of the lower shaft 446 (stop point). The ridges 428, 448 engage one another (ridge contact point) when the retention ~~an arm~~ 420 is retracted, so as to prevent the retention arm 420 from being removed from the opening 442 (retain

the retention arm 420 within the opening 440). The retention arm 420 can be moved longitudinally within the opening 442 from the stop point to the ridge contact point. The distance between the ridge contact point and the stop point is the amount of movement that can be adjusted between the two headers. According to one embodiment, the distance is in the range of .5 mm or less. However, the distance is in no way intended to be limited thereto. Rather as one skilled in the art would recognize, the distance can be any amount required and/or desired to provide an assembler with flexibility in assembling the adjustable pin header assembly 400 to a PCB, and to take into account possible shrinkage of the headers that make up the assembly 400 during fabrication.--

At page 10, please delete the paragraph beginning with "Moreover,..." and replace it with the following paragraph:

--Moreover, the retention arm 535 of the header assembly 500 extends from a relatively small portion of the main body 530 in Fig. 5 (i.e., has a small width) and the corresponding opening 520 therefore has a relatively small width. According to one embodiment, the retention arm 535 and the corresponding opening 520 could have a much larger width (i.e., extend from almost an entire side of the header). Additionally, as illustrated in Fig. 5, the retention arm 535 and the extension surface 515 of the header assembly 500 is located on the lower end of the headers (appears on the upper end as illustrated, since Fig. 5 is a bottom perspective view). According to one embodiment, the retention arm 535 and the extension surface 515 could extend ~~1-5~~ from the top, side, or any combination of top, bottom and sides of the headers, as long as the retention arms 535 and the openings 520 are in alignment.--

At page 11, please delete the paragraph beginning with "Fig. 6..." and replace it with the following paragraph:

--Fig. 6 illustrates an exemplary perspective view of two unassembled headers of a moveable pin header assembly 600. The header assembly 600 includes a first header ~~610~~610 and a second header 640. The first header 610 has a main body 615 and two retention arms 620 extending from a lower edge of the main body 615. The retention arms 620 extend outward and then bend downward and include a ridge 625 extending in both directions proximate to the end of the downward section. The first header 610 further includes two stops 630 extending from the main body 615. The stops 630 are wider than the retention arms 620 and are located above and connected to a portion of the retention arms 620. The second header 640 has a main body 645 and an extending surface 650 extending from a lower edge of the main body 645. The extending surface 650 includes two openings 655 formed in an outer edge thereof. The openings 655 are shaped like a "t" in this embodiment having a narrow beginning, a wider middle and a narrow end. The wider middle section is for receiving the ridges 625. The narrow beginning section is for receiving the retention arm 620 as the ridges 625 are inserted in the wider middle section. The narrow ending section is for receiving the retention arm 620 when the ridges 625 are inserted further into the opening in order to engage the ridges (not illustrated) within the opening 655. The ridges within the opening 655 and the ridges 625 engage one another and thus secure the two headers 610, 640 together. The ridges within the opening 655 are placed so as to provide the headers 610, 640 with sufficient longitudinal movement with respect to one another.--

At page 13, please delete the paragraph beginning with "Fig. 8..." and replace it with the following paragraph:

--Fig. 8 illustrates an exemplary bottom perspective view, partly broken away, of two assembled headers of a header assembly 800. The header assembly 800 includes a first header 810 and a second header 820. The first header 810 includes a retention arm 830 that is mounted within an opening 840 in the second header 820. The opening 840 includes a ridge 850 that is locking the retention arm 820 within the opening 840.--

At page 13, please delete the paragraph beginning with "Fig. 9..." and replace it with the following paragraph:

--Fig. 9 illustrates an exemplary bottom perspective view of two assembled headers) of a header assembly 900. The header assembly 900 includes a first header 910 and a second header 920. The first header 910 includes two retention arms 930, one located on each side of the housing, and two alignment tabs 940, one located in close proximity to each retention arm 930. The second housing 920 includes two openings 950 and two alignment groves 960 in close proximity to the openings 950. The alignment tabs 940 and the alignment groves 960 can be used to assist in aligning the two headers 910, 920 prior to connection (align the headers so that the retention arms 930 can be inserted in the openings 950) and after the connection (keep the headers from shifting to the left or right with respect to each other). While not illustrated in Fig. 9, there is preferably some type of latch mechanism included holding the retention arms 930 in the openings 950 (for example, ridges as previously discussed with respect to other embodiments).--

At page 16, please delete the paragraph beginning with "The above-described..." and replace it with the following paragraph:

--The above-described embodiments of various movable pin header assemblies all include retention arms on one header and openings for receiving the retention arms on the other header. As should be understood, the invention is no way intended to be limited thereto. For example, one header may have a retention ~~an arm~~ on a first side and a opening on a second side and the other header may have an opening on a first side and a retention arm on a second side. The retention arm/opening on the first side and the opening/retention arm on the second side would be in alignment to allow connection to each other. Furthermore, a retention arm (male connection mechanism) and an opening (female connection mechanism) are not the only devices that can be used to moveably attach two headers. Rather, any type of attachment mechanism that can be fabricated as a part of the headers, and which allows the headers to longitudinally move with respect to one another, could be used. For example, according to one embodiment, a female connection mechanism need not consist of an opening formed in an extension surface (as illustrated in many of the above described embodiments). Rather, the female connection mechanism could be an opening formed directly in the housing of the header. According to one embodiment, the male connection mechanism need not bend (as illustrated in many of the above described embodiments). Rather, the male connection mechanism could be an extension arm extending from the housing of the header that has, for example, serrated edges formed therein that allow the extension arm to be inserted into an opening but not removed therefrom.--